



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
980 Ninth Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA. 95814-2724
December 17, 2002

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Mr. Jeff Morales, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500
For Kris Balaji, Federal Programming

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: SJCOG 2002/03-2004/05 FTIP/FSTIP Amendment No. 2

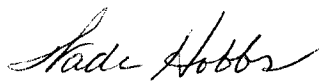
We have completed our review of Amendment No. 2 to the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) 2002/03-2004/05 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated October 30, 2002. This amendment proposes to add a new project listing in the Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) for the I-205/Mountain House Interchange project, including preliminary engineering, right-of-way, and construction phases of the project totaling \$13 million. The project added to the FTIP by this amendment is locally funded but requires a federal action on the environmental document.

The SJCOG Board adopted Resolution Number R-03-07 on September 26, 2002, approving this FTIP modification and reaffirming the conformity of the transportation improvement program with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. Based on our review, we find that the project has been included in the regional emissions analysis for the 2025 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) with design concept and scope adequately detailed to determine its contribution to the transportation plan's regional emissions at the time of the transportation plan's conformity determination, and that the design concept, scope, and implementation schedule of the project is not significantly different from that described in the transportation plan. We also find that the funding of the I-205/Mountain House Interchange project will not delay the implementation of projects in the metropolitan transportation plan or FTIP, which are necessary to achieve the highway and transit system envisioned by the transportation plan. Based on these findings we have determined that the I-205/Mountain House Interchange project has been demonstrated to satisfy the requirements of 40 CFR 93.118 and 93.119 without a new regional emissions analysis in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR 93.122(e)(2)(ii).

We find that the subject amendment to the SJCOG FTIP was developed through a process in accord with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134 and Chapter 53 of 49 U.S.C. Based on our review of the project listing and supporting documentation that were submitted with your FSTIP programming request, we are approving the addition of a new listing for the I-205/Mountain

House Interchange project to California's 2002/03-2004/05 FSTIP. The FHWA is providing this approval in accordance with the procedures outlined in the joint FHWA/FTA Memorandum of Understanding on single mode TIP amendments dated March 8, 1996. Our planning and conformity findings have been coordinated with the regional offices of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Federal Transit Administration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary N. Hamby".

For
Gary N. Hamby
Division Administrator

cc:

SJCOG FTIP Binder w/ State Letter

FTA, Jerome Wiggins

EPA, Karina O'Connor

SJCOG

Caltrans:

Federal Resources, Dick Petrie (MS-23)

Office of Local Programs, Terry Abbott (MS-1)

Transportation Programming, Abhijit Bagde (FAX: 916-654-2983)